

## Capsule Summary

### **Inventory No. CARR-861**

Messler Brothers Canning Factory  
413 McKinstry's Mill Road, Linwood  
Carroll County, MD  
1925-1930s  
Access: Private

The Messler Brothers Canning Factory is a two-story frame building that lies between the Western Maryland Railroad line and a small creek in the town of Linwood. The factory is accessed from a dirt lane off of Mc Kinstry's Mill Road parallel to the railroad tracks. The building was constructed in the 1920s and has a poured concrete foundation. Several frame outbuildings are to the west and north of the main building and are of unclear relationship to the cannery building. Just outside the rear of the main building is a steel frame that may have held a water tank.

The Messler Brothers Canning Factory represents the Carroll County canning industry an important component of the agricultural economy of the county (National Register Criterion A). Scattered throughout the county, small canneries like Messler Brothers were common. Linwood was surrounded by farms and provided fragile, perishable produce a short trip to market via canning.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CARR-861

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic      Messler Brothers Canning Factory (preferred), Melrose Canning Factory

other

### 2. Location

street and number    413 McKinstry's Mill Road      not for publication  
city, town      Linwood      vicinity  
county      Carroll

### 3. Owner of Property (gives names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name      Louise Roop Knight  
street and number    413 McKinstry's Mill Road      telephone  
city, town      Linwood      state    MD      zip code    21764

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.    Carroll County courthouse      liber    301      folio    381  
city, town      Linwood      tax map    43      tax parcel    119      tax ID number    unknown

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☒ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☒ Other:    MIHP

### 6. Classification

Category		Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	2	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	1		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation			objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	3	2	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown			
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use			
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:			

**Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory**  
unknown



## 7. Description

Inventory No. CARR-861

### Condition

_____	excellent	_____	deteriorated
_____	good	_____	ruins
<u>  x  </u>	fair	_____	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### *Description Summary*

The Messler Brothers Canning Factory is a two-story frame building that lies between the Western Maryland Railroad line and a small creek in the town of Linwood. The factory is accessed from a dirt lane off of Mc Kinstry's Mill Road parallel to the railroad tracks. The building was constructed in the 1920s and has a poured concrete foundation. Several frame outbuildings are to the west and north of the main building and are of unclear relationship to the cannery building. Just outside the rear of the main building is a steel frame that may have held a water tank.

### *Description*

The main building of the Messler Brothers Canning Factory is located approximately 75 yards east from McKinstry's Mill Road and approximately 50 yards north from the Western Maryland Railroad. This northern edge of Linwood is clearly the industrial part of the small town as directly across the railroad tracks from the cannery is a grain elevator and general store and on the other side of McKinstry's Mill Road is a building that once housed an ice cream factory. It does not appear that any of the industry that once occurred in Linwood survives.

The frame building has a peaked roof with new standing seam metal roofing material. Its gable end faces the railroad to the south and is three bays wide and two stories tall. In the center of each story is a sliding door, to either side of the doors are six over six wooden framed windows. The lower sliding door has two four-pane windows, the upper door has no windows. Just below the peak of the roof is a steel beam with a pulley and hook extending out from the building. To west side of the building is a lean-to section with shed roof and double hinged doors. A beam extends perpendicular above the doorway, and was likely used with a pulley to load and unload trucks.

The east side of the building is approximately five bays long with six over six wood frame windows placed randomly along the length of the building. One door, placed about midway along the first floor provides access to the building. The north side of the building has a one story section with shed roof and two windows. The south side section of the building that has the shed roof does not extend the length of the rest of the building. This forms a sort of alcove in the rear of the building where an enclosed porch has been added on a concrete slab. In this area is also a grey painted steel frame that is approximately a story and a half tall and appears to be a base for a water tank.

A one story frame building sits to the north east of the main building. There are no discernable windows and one door in the center of the southern façade. This may have served as a supply building but as access was limited this could not be verified. Two small frame out buildings in poor repair with board and batten siding sit to the north of the main building. It is unclear if these buildings are related to the cannery.



## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CARR-861

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering <input type="checkbox"/> invention <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture <input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation <input type="checkbox"/> law <input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage <input type="checkbox"/> literature <input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement <input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
<b>Specific dates</b>	1925-1930s	<b>Architect/Builder</b> Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	c. 1925	
Evaluation for:		
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland Register	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### *Summary of Significance*

The Messler Brothers Canning Factory represents the Carroll County canning industry an important component of the agricultural economy of the county (National Register Criterion A). Scattered throughout the county, small canneries like Messler Brothers were common. Linwood was surrounded by farms and provided fragile, perishable produce a short trip to market via canning.

### *Historic Context*

**[See “Historic Industry in Mid-Maryland” prepared for the Maryland Historical Trust through the Catoctin Center for Regional Studies, 2002-2003.]**

The history of the Messler Brothers Canning factory is extremely short. According to the 1920 U.S. Population Census records, Charles and Frank Messler were living on their father's farm on the “Linwood and McKinstry Road.”<sup>1</sup> Frank, age 18, was perhaps just finishing school, his occupation listed at “None.” Charles U. Messler, age 32, was married with an infant son, and worked with his father Louis on the farm. By 1925, the brothers Charles and John had established their canning factory in Linwood. The portion of land on which the cannery sits was sold to Frank W., Charles U. and John H. Messler, trading as Messler Brothers, on July 30, 1930 by The Hagerstown Grain & Feed Company.<sup>2</sup> Located on the north side of the Western Maryland Railroad tracks, the area known as “Depot Grounds at Linwood Station,” it was part of a parcel purchased by the Grain & Feed Company from Christian M. and Cecelia A. Horst on December 14, 1929.<sup>3</sup> The location was ideal for the preparation of local produce for shipping to larger markets via the railroad; the factory employed local women on a seasonal basis to can tomatoes. Unfortunately, the timing of the business's establishment was less ideal.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Messler Brothers Canning Factory  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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The business did not survive the onset of the Great Depression. In August 1931, Charles U. Messler, et. Al. sold the land to Frederick County Realty Company.<sup>4</sup> At this time it appears the effects of the Great Depression took their toll again. In December of the same year (1931), Peoples Liquidation Corporation obtained the land from the Frederick County Realty Company and turned it over to the Central Trust Company of Maryland.<sup>5</sup> By 1934, the Central Trust Company was in trouble and John J. Ghingher, Bank Commissioner of the State of Maryland was shown as the owner of the property while the Central Trust Company reorganized. As part of this reorganization the land was transferred again to Peoples Liquidating Corporation.<sup>6</sup>

On November 29, 1937, canning returned to the Linwood property when Philip and Isadore J. Gradman, co-partners trading as Melrose Canning Company purchased it from the liquidating company. After Isadore died in 1941, his widow Diana deeded his share of the land to Philip.<sup>7</sup> Then, in 1948, Philip and Celia Gradman sold the parcel to John D. Roop, Jr. and his wife Edith.<sup>8</sup> The current owner of the land is Louise Roop Knight who purchased the property in 1959.<sup>9</sup>



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CARR-861

Carroll County Land Records, Carroll Co. Courthouse, Westminster, MD.

Carroll County Tour, Data Sheet: Linwood, dated May 8, 1982, vertical files Historical Society of Carroll County.

Getty, Joseph M., ed. The Carroll Record: Histories of Northwestern Carroll County Communities. Historical Society of Carroll County: Westminster, Md., 1994.

"Heritage Quest," database website, U.S. Population Census records.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1.64 acres

Acreage of historical setting 1.64 acres

Quadrangle name Union Bridge, MD Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is defined by Carroll County tax map 43, parcel 119.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title Heidi Campbell-Shoaf, Historian

organization Paula S. Reed & Assoc., Inc.

street & number 105 N. Potomac St.

city or town Hagerstown

date August 2003

telephone 301.739.2070

state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Messler Brothers Canning Factory

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<sup>1</sup> 1920 U.S. Population Census records, "Heritage Quest," database website.

<sup>2</sup> Carroll Co. Land Record, Liber 154, Folio 317.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, Liber 154, Folio 315 and Liber 36, Folio 424.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, Liber 156, Folio 523.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, Liber 161, Folio 272.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, Liber 167, Folio 307.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid, Liber 197, Folio 346.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, Liber 301, Folio 381.



CARR-861  
MESSLER BROTHERS CANNING FACTORY  
413 MCKINSTRY'S MILL RD.  
LINWOOD, CARROLL CO., MD  
MAP OF LINWOOD

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF  
CARROLL COUNTY, MD.  
210 EAST MAIN STREET  
WESTMINSTER, MD. 21157

CARROLL COUNTY TOUR

May 8, 1982

DATA SHEET: Linwood

Important Dates:

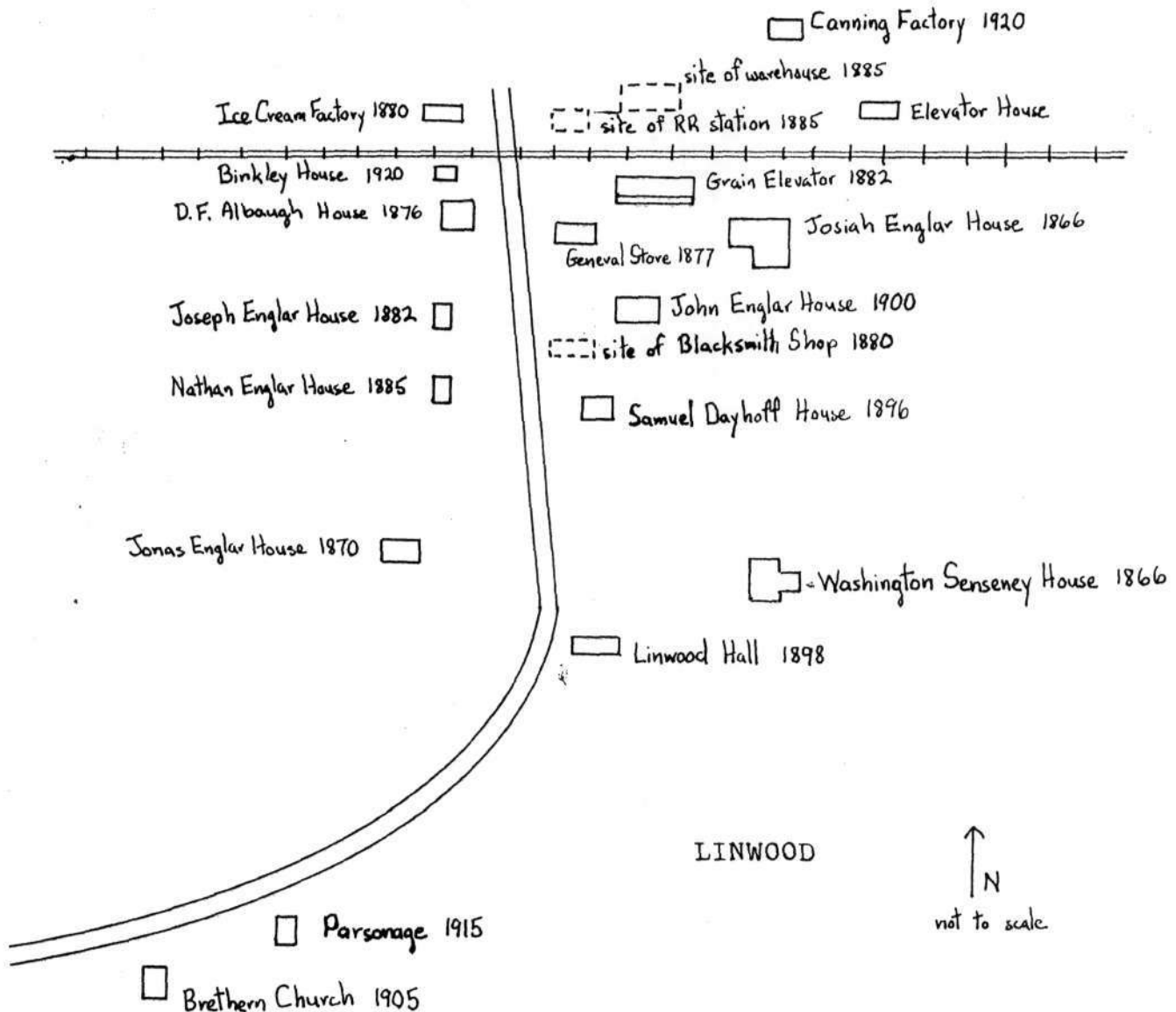
1862 -- Western Maryland Railroad completed from  
Westminster to Union Bridge

1868 -- Josiah Englar purchases depot land

1869-1900 -- Englar Houses constructed

1876 -- David Albaugh establishes store

1870's - early 1900's -- Linwood Camp Meetings



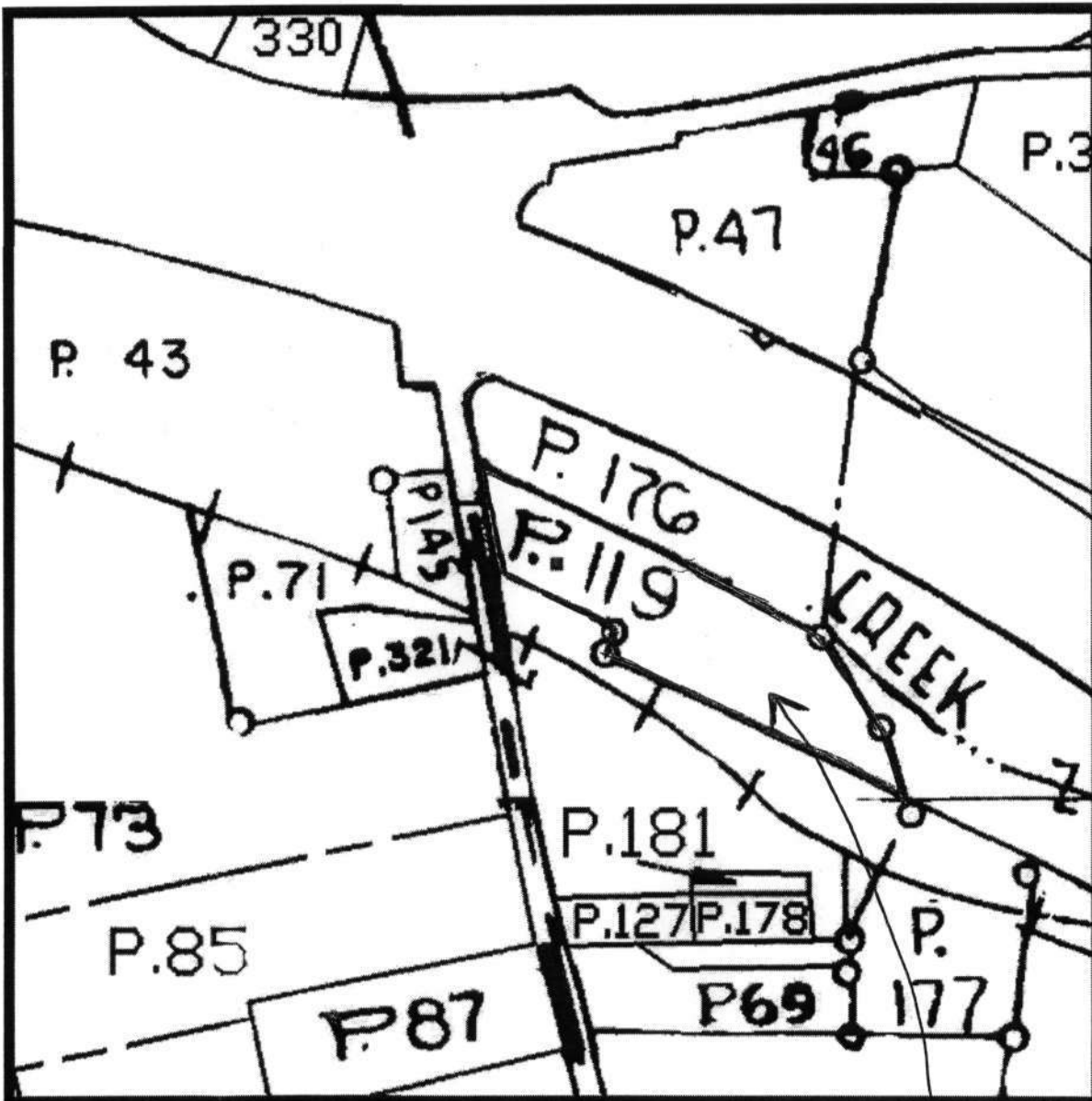




**Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation**  
**CARROLL COUNTY**  
**Real Property Data Search**

[Go Back](#)  
[View Map](#)  
[New Search](#)

District - 11 Account Number - 003168



Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001.  
 For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning  
 web site at [www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html)



CARR-861  
 MESSLER BROTHERS CANNING FACTORY  
 413 MCKINSTY'S MILL RD., LINWOOD  
 CARROLL CO., MD  
 TAX MAP 43, PARCEL 119



330

46

P.47

P.176

P.71

P.145

P.321

MCKINSTRY'S MILL ROAD

CANNING  
FACTORY

SHEDS  
(NO  
ACCESS)

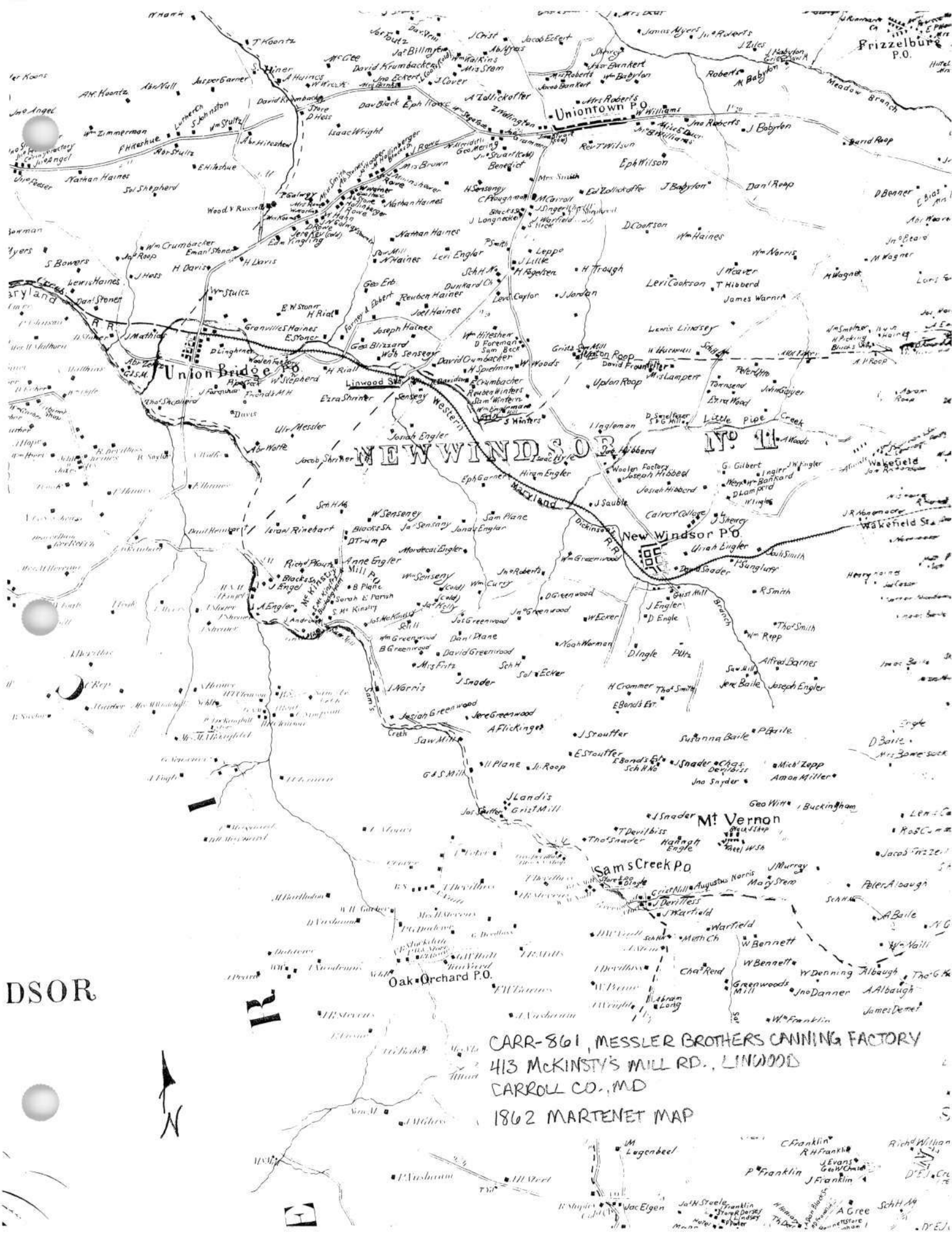
GREEN

P.181

CARR-861, MESSLER BROTHERS CANNING FACTORY  
413 MCKINSTRY'S MILL RD, LIN WOOD  
CARROLL CO., MD

▲ N SITE PLAN (NOT TO SCALE)





DSOR

R

CARR-861, MESSLER BROTHERS CANNING FACTORY  
413 MCKINSTY'S MILL RD., LINWOOD  
CARROLL CO., MD  
1862 MARTENET MAP



66

67

68

# NEW WINDSOR

DISTRICT No 11

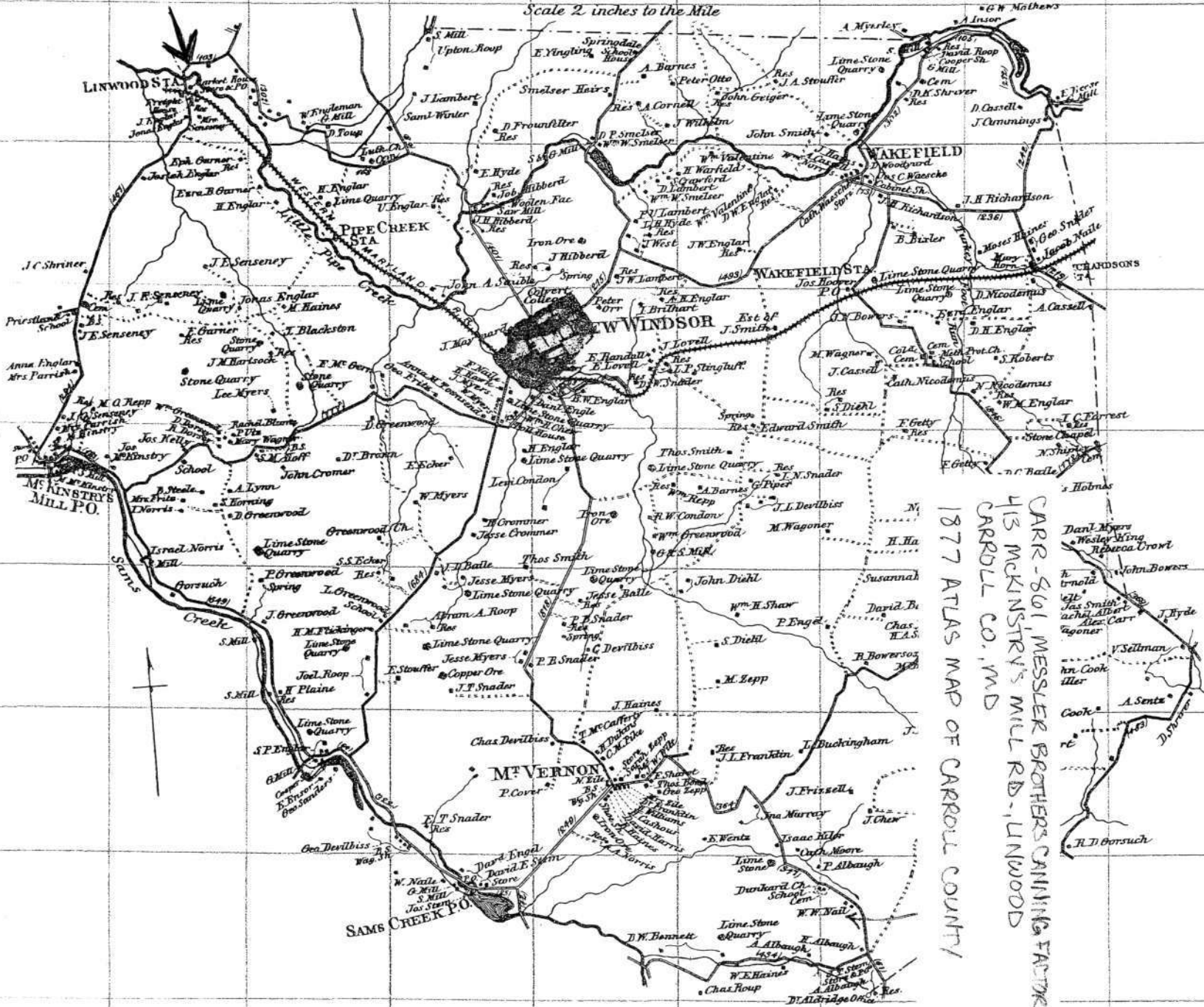
72

73

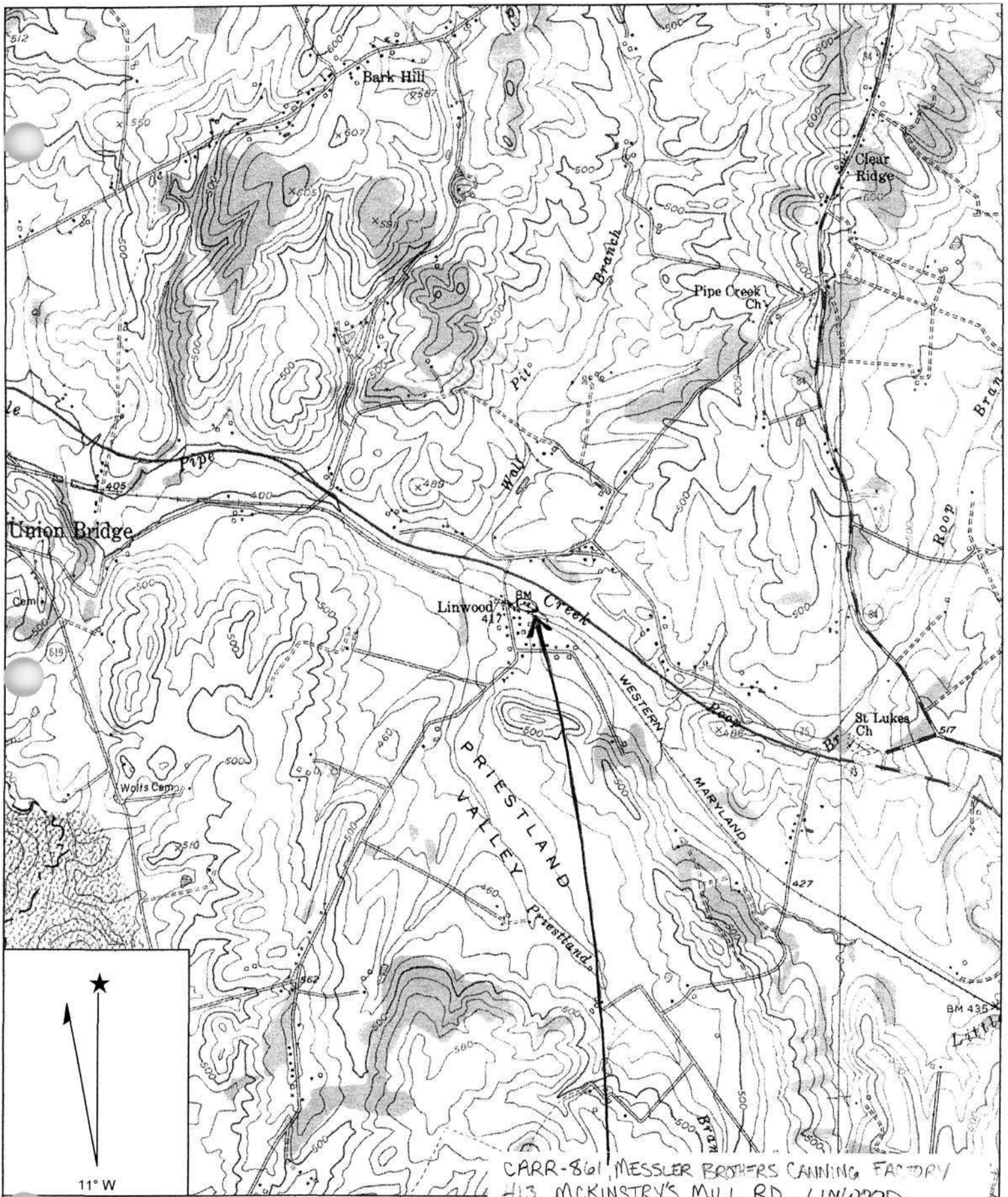
74

75

Scale 2 inches to the Mile







Name: UNION BRIDGE

Date: 9/8/2003

Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

CARR-861, MESSLER BROTHERS CANNING FACTORY  
413 MCKINSTRY'S MILL RD., LINWOOD  
CARROLL CO., MD

USGS MAP, UNION BRIDGE, MD QUAD







Carr-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory

413 McKinstry's Mill Rd

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shaaf

8/03

MDSTPO

Elevation of cannery viewed from SW

1/6







CARR-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory

413 McKinstry's Mill Rd.

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

E elevation viewed from SE corner

2/6







CARR-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory

413 McKinstry's Mill Rd

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

N elevation viewed from NE corner of bldg

3/6







CARR-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory

413 McKinstry's Mill Rd.

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

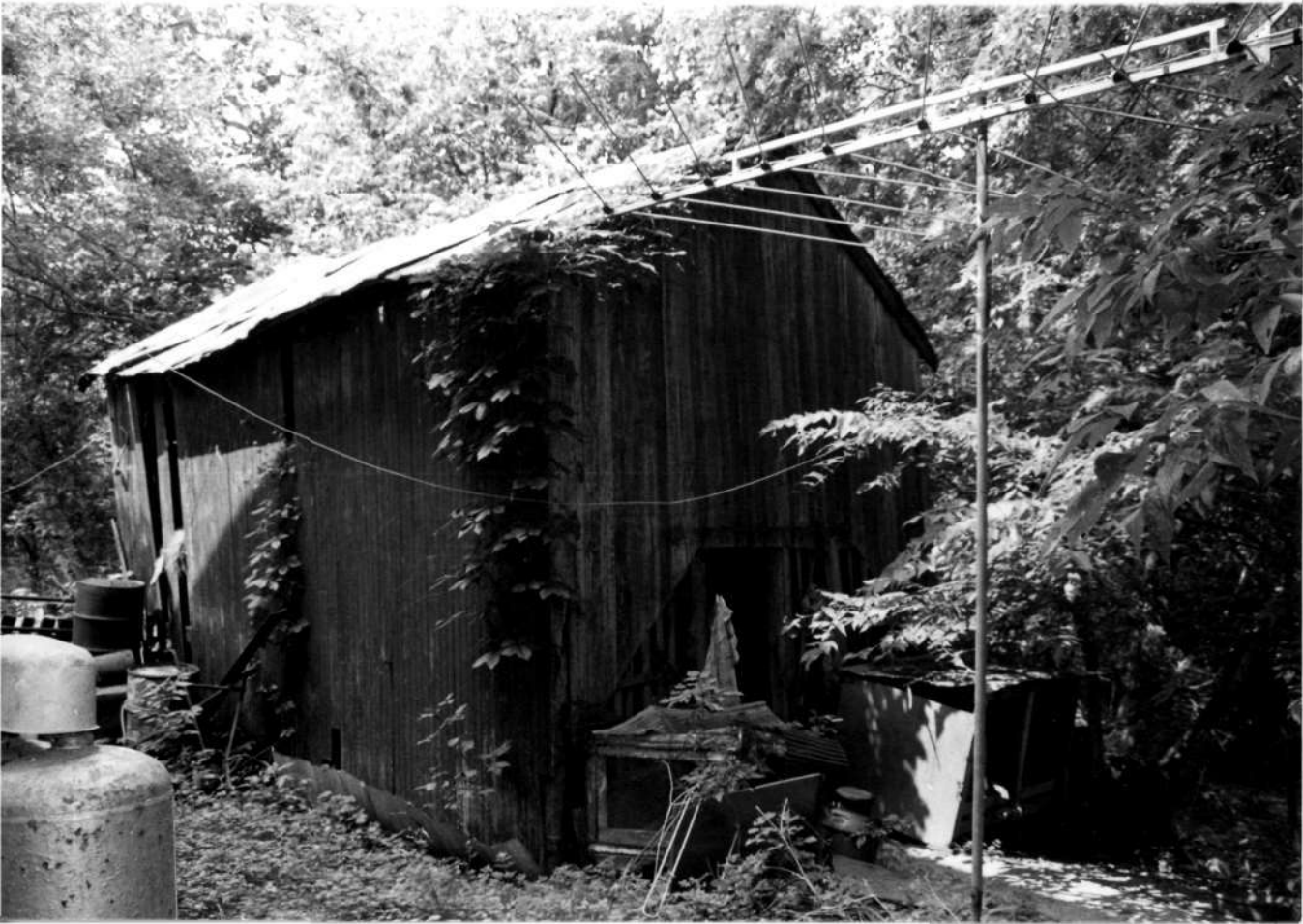
8/03

MDSHPO

West elevation of cannery viewed from the  
SE looking W

4/0







CARR-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory

413 McKinstry's Mill Rd

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MD SHPO

Shed located to the NW of cannery bldg viewed  
looking from the NE corner of cannery -  
directly behind cannery

5/6







CARR-861

Messler Bro. Canning Factory  
413 McKinstry's Mill Rd.

Linwood, MD

Carroll County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSTPO

Auxilliary bldg. located to the NW corner of  
cannery, south elevation shown here

6/6